

What is claimed is:

- 1) A method of segmenting a software work product, comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing a memory that is able to store data at a series of addresses in said memory,
  - b) providing an input means that at least one agent can use to store data in said memory at said respective series of addresses,
  - c) storing said data in said memory at said series of addresses,
  - d) providing an output device which is operatively connected to said memory for presenting to an output space of at least one dimension discernable to at least one agent, said data stored in said memory at said series of addresses,
  - e) providing a means that at least one agent can manipulate to indicate any and all parts of said output space in a manner that at least one agent can continue to manipulate to indicate smaller and smaller parts of parts until subsets of parts can no longer be indicated,
  - f) providing a means to isolate and separately identify said parts,
  - g) providing a means to store in said memory at a series of addresses said isolated and separately identified said parts,whereby at least one agent can easily divide the software work product in a manner that adds greater utility while no longer treating the software work product as a monolith that can not be divided.
- 2) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including a means for at least one agent to separately control the actions on said parts while not allowing at least one other agent the means to separately control the actions on said parts.
- 3) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein said means for at least one agent to separately control the actions on said parts is providing a means to modify said parts.
- 4) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 3, further including the steps of:
  - a) providing a means to store in said memory a copy of said modified parts,
  - b) providing a means whereby at least one agent who has control of said parts can present to said output space the copy of said parts stored in a series of addresses in said memory in a way that replaces the existing said parts in said output space.
- 5) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 3, further including the steps of:
  - a) providing a means whereby at least one agent who has control of said parts can present to said output space the said parts under the control of all other agents, stored in a series of addresses in said memory, in a way without causing modification to said parts under control of said agent.

- 6) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein said means for at least one agent to separately control the actions on said parts is a means comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing a means to no longer isolate and separately identify said parts,
  - b) providing a means to disassociate said parts stored in said memory at said series of addresses.
- 7) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein said means for at least one agent to separately control the actions on said parts is a means comprising the steps of:
  - a) providing a means to remove said parts,
  - b) providing a means to no longer isolate and separately identify said parts,
  - c) providing a means to disassociate said parts stored in said memory at said series of addresses.
- 8) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who has said means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions in a separate geographic location from at least one agent who has the means to separately control the actions on other said parts.
- 9) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who has said means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions at a different time as at least one agent who has the means to separately control the actions on other said parts.
- 10) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who has said means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions at the same geographic location from at least one agent who has the means to separately control the actions on other said parts.
- 11) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who has said means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions at the same time as at least one agent who has the means to separately control the actions on other said parts.
- 12) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who has means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions when said memory is not accessible by at least one other agent.
- 13) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 12, further including the steps of:

- a) providing a means for at least one agent who has means to separately control the actions of said parts to transition from where said memory is not accessible by at least one other agent to where said memory is accessible by at least one other agent,
  - b) providing a means whereby said memory that is not accessible by at least one other agent and stores said parts will move copies of said parts under the control of at least one agent to the memory that is accessible by at least one other agent.
- 14) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who does not have the means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions when said memory is not accessible by at least one other agent.
- 15) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 14, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for at least one agent who does not have the means to separately control the actions of said parts to transition from where said memory is not accessible by at least one other agent to where said memory is accessible by at least one other agent,
  - b) providing a means whereby said memory that is not accessible by at least one other agent and stores said parts will be compared to said parts under the control of at least one other agent,
  - c) providing a means whereby at least one agent who does not have control can automatically create a new software work product that is an alternative to said parts under control of at least one other agent,
  - d) providing a means so that said new software work product is associated with said parts of existing software work product,
  - e) providing a means to store in said memory said association.
- 16) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, wherein at least one agent who has means to separately control the actions on said parts can perform these actions when said memory is accessible by at least one other agent.
- 17) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 16, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for said agent to automatically transmit to said output space of at least one other agent data about said actions.
- 18) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, further including the steps of:

006021-002260

- a) providing a means for at least one agent to separately control the actions of one subpart of said parts alone and separate from said parts in its own output space.
- 19) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 2, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for at least one agent to aggregate subparts of said parts into a superpart that contains said aggregated subparts.
- 20) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including a means for at least one agent to create new software products and associate them with said parts.
- 21) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, wherein said segmenting of the software work product is physical.
- 22) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, wherein said segmenting of the software work product is logical.
- 23) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, wherein said agent is human or non-human.
- 24) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for at least one agent to create a new software work product,
  - b) providing a means that said new software work product is associated with existing software work product,
  - c) providing a means to store in said memory said association.
- 25) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for at least one agent to place controls on the kinds of actions that can occur on each subpart of said parts.
- 26) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for at least one agent to select what subset of said parts stored in said memory for said output device to present in said output space.
- 27) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
- a) providing a means for at least one agent to select what subset of said parts to store in said memory so that super parts that are stored are not stored with subpart content, but with markers to indicate subpart location,

- b) providing a means for at least one agent to expand said parts with said markers to indicate subpart location so that said subparts stored in said memory are presented by said output device in said output space in fully expanded manner.
- 28) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
  - a) providing a means for at least one agent to indicate what subset of said parts said agent will automatically receive data about actions on said parts by at least one other agent,
  - b) providing a means for at least one agent to indicate what subset of said parts said agent will automatically transmit data about actions on said subset to at least one other agent.
- 29) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
  - a) providing a means to record an action on said parts.
- 30) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 29 wherein the means to record an action includes storing of electronic signatures associated with said parts.
- 31) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 29 wherein the means to record an action includes storing of the date and time that an agent reviewed said parts.
- 32) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
  - a) providing a means to associate actions on subsets of said parts.
- 33) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 32 wherein the means to associate actions is a workflow action on said subset of said parts.
- 34) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 32 wherein the means to associate actions is a project management action on said subset of said parts.
- 35) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 32 wherein the means to associate actions is a vote on said subset of said parts.
- 36) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:
  - a) providing a means to create entirely new software work products from combining said parts from other software work products.

37) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 36 wherein the means to associate actions is a workflow action.

38) The method of segmenting a software work product of Claim 1, further including the steps of:

- a) providing a means to associate any part with any other part in the same or different software work products.

39) A method of integrating collaboration functionality within software applications, comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a memory that is able to store data at a series of addresses in said memory,
- b) providing an input means that at least one agent can use to store data in said memory at said respective series of addresses,
- c) storing said data in said memory at said series of addresses,
- d) providing an output device which is operatively connected to said memory for presenting to an output space of at least one dimension discernable to at least one agent, said data stored in said memory at said series of addresses,
- e) providing a means to integrate collaborative functionality by adding into existing application structures,

whereby at least one agent can easily collaborate and share information with at least one other agent.

40) The method of integrating collaboration functionality within software applications of Claim 39, further including the steps of:

- a) providing a means to place a window within the application space itself,
- b) providing a general means to capture keystrokes within the applications and control actions based on capturing these keystrokes.